

MEXICO MISSOURI MESSAGE.

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NO. 34

OLD CHURCH TO BE RAZED

STANDS OVER THE LINE IN CALLAWAY COUNTY.

One of The Early Established Churches in Central Missouri.

Old Liberty Christian church, one of the early established churches of that denomination in Central Missouri, southeast of Benton City, over the line in the Kingdom of Callaway, built 40 years ago, is soon to be torn down and a new concrete edifice 32x48 feet, with S. S. room 20x24 feet, will be erected in its stead. More than \$3,000 has been subscribed for the new building. On a recent Sunday an old-time love feast and big dinner was held at the church as a farewell to the old structure. Eld. Dameron, of Centralia, preached a stirring address on the occasion.

Liberty church was organized the third Sunday in August, 1839. The ten charter members were Barbara Collins, Martha Collins, John T. Dillard, Wm. Pearson, Isabella Pearson, Richard Pearson, Mary Hall, Polly Read, Wm. B. Douglass and Lucy Douglass.

Wm. B. Douglass was the first elder and John T. Dillard was the first deacon. During the first 25 years of the church's history Wm. B. Douglass was the pastor and served without remuneration. Before the close of his ministry, however, the congregation concluded it had not done as good part by the old gentleman as it should and that a fund should be raised for his benefit. Fearing he might be offended at the offer of financial aid, a member of the church was commissioned to ascertain his sentiments in the matter. Elder Douglass informed the inquirer that he would be pleased to accept anything offered, and a canvass was made and \$20 raised. When it was given to the preacher he handed it to one of the deacons and requested that it be used for the benefit of the church.

The first church house, erected in 1839 in Audrain county, about three miles northwest of the present site, was of hewed logs and during the first few years the building was heated by a large open fire-place. About 1853 a carpenter named W. O. Austin built the second house, a frame, on the present church site. This building was used about twenty years, and was followed by the house soon to be sold, which was erected by Douglass & Thompson. At the time the third house was built, in 1873, the congregation numbered about 170 persons. The membership now comprises 214, not counting some who have moved to other places and have not been transferred in their memberships.

Among the pastors have been W. B. Douglass, Jacob Coons, Thomas J. Marlowe, Wm. Mason, B. C. Stephens, Samuel Magee, W. T. Sallee, W. H. Hook, James Grow, Eagan Herndon and Robert Shelton.

Big Fire at Farber.

S. E. Graesser & Son's general merchandise store at Farber was totally destroyed by fire at one o'clock last Friday morning. It is not known how the fire caught. The loss of building and contents is estimated at \$15,000, partly covered by insurance. Clanton Ellis, of this city, was an employee in the store.

Misses Flenma and Fay Snidow are at Chautauqua, N. Y., where they will spend the remainder of the summer.

MRS. LEE DEAD.

Had Lived Here Nearly a Half Century.

Mrs. Nannie J. Lee, after a long illness, died last Friday morning. Mrs. Lee leaves four sons as follows: W. D., George, Arthur and E. L. Lee.

Deceased was a native of Kentucky, born Jan. 28, 1845. She had lived in Mexico 49 years. Her husband died a few years ago. She was a good woman, beloved by a large circle of friends. Rev. J. D. Greer, assisted by Rev. W. A. Shullenberger, conducted the funeral services at the home Saturday afternoon, interment in Elmwood. The pallbearers were R. R. Arnold, Sr., Sam Locke, Ivan Ashworth, Earl Haggard, Willard Potts, J. W. Howell.

Mexico Cubs vs. Prairie Lee.

One of Mexico's younger teams of base ball players, known as the Mexico Cubs, crossed bats with the Prairie Lee players—the No Socks—a few days ago, in which the Mexico Cubs were victorious. The score was 10 to 4. Thomas Johnson, the pitcher for the Mexico team, fanned out 20 men. Both teams played good ball.

GANT NEWS.

Another fine rain in this vicinity.

J. W. McCamman and wife entertained Jas. Smith and family, Wm. Dempsey and family and John T. Beatty and family last Sunday.

T. M. Broadbuss and wife were Centralia visitors one day last week.

Rev. J. D. Greer filled his regular appointment at Salt River church Sunday and Sunday night. T. J. Jerman and wife visited J. R. Hayes and wife, north of Centralia, recently.

L. Y. Petty and wife of near Sturgeon attended preaching at Salt River Sunday.

Don't forget the Chautauqua at Mexico Sept. 4th to 10th. "Meet me there."

POWELL FORD.

The past week has been very warm. The nice rain Wednesday of last week was appreciated by all the farmers.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. McMurry entertained last Friday Drs. W. R. and N. R. Rodas and families.

Wheat and oats harvest is in progress and quality and quantity is very good.

Mrs. Ella Bledsoe and daughters, Misses Virgie and Anna Bledsoe of Mexico, spent Tuesday of last week with T. J. Powell and family.

About seven weeks more until the Chautauqua opens. It is said it will be bigger and better than ever. There will be seven big Chautauqua days; twelve double programs and twelve single. This makes really 36 events in all. It can all be seen and heard on one low-priced season ticket. Thavin's International Band is coming back this year. They will have a full new program, for both afternoon and evenings. There are seven musical companies in all, one for each day, and entertainers and orators galore. So you see it will be worth your while to plan to attend the Mexico Chautauqua.

Miss Minnie June Powell had the pleasure of attending the Fourth of July celebration at Mexico. First time she had been to Mexico for a year and a half. She is much better of the rheumatism and enjoyed the day very much and was the guest of relatives for a few days while there.

Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Cook, Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Johnson, and Mr. and Mrs. Milford Berry took Sunday dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Wm. McMurry.

EIGHT MILE R. DISTRICT.

Commission Wide-Awake — Results Coming—23 Culverts Bought.

Regular monthly meeting held Monday, July 8, at office of Ns. Myers, J. H. Lane and Ns. Myers, present, George Lee, absent. Bills to the amount of \$575.75 allowed and paid. Clerk's books showed a balance in the treasury of \$3,493.72.

O. F. Saffer, who represents the Corrugated Culvert Co. of Moberly, met the Commission for the purpose of making contract with them for iron culverts. After figuring with the Commission for several hours he notified his company that he was about to fail to get the order and had the senior member of his firm to come to Mexico to help figure with the Commission. After making acceptable prices the Commission gave an order for 23 American Ingot Iron culverts. This is considered a good trade. Each ingot iron culvert is guaranteed to last 25 years. They will be used over the eight-mile district to take the place of culverts that are rotted out or must be replaced.

The Commission is looking after every road interest of the district and you are going to see results as time comes and goes.

STROTHER ITEMS.

Crops looking fine, although some fields contain a great many weeds. There is also a fine crop of early apples.

Most everyone in and around Strother attended the dedication of the new Christian church at Victor Sunday. They certainly had a fine day. We are glad of it, for the first time they had set it rained the whole day.

Willie Crigler spent Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Crigler.

Byron Winn has moved back over in his old neighborhood where he was married a few weeks ago. Sorry to say that he never brought his new wife over in this country. Guess he thought it wasn't a safe place over here. He didn't want to get charivariated.

Frank Elliott's entertained Judge Pierce, Mr. T. Cleary and children and John Pierce Sunday at dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. Sproul and daughter, of Paris, attended the exercises at Victor Sunday.

Bear in mind, please, that there is to be a big ice cream supper at Strother next Saturday night. Be sure and come.

Frank Elliott had two new two-row cultivators hauled out of town, last week, and he is using them, too.

There was no Sunday school at Strother Sunday on account of the exercises at Victor.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Key spent Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Key at Santa Fe.

Miss Mamie Key returned home Sunday after a short visit with her brother, Roy.

Frank Smith entertained Mr. and Mrs. Albert Crigler Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Lyman are visiting friends in Iowa.

Mason Creasey visited Kansas City last week on business.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Pratt have been visiting their daughter, Mrs. Gus Hilford, of Sedalia.

Mrs. John Clark and small child, of Benton City, visited relatives near Molino recently.

J. C. Miller, of Berea locality, has been visiting his daughter, Mrs. L. B. Hickman, of near Florida, Monroe county.

A PICNIC IN THE WOODS.

METHODISTS LOSE IN A BASE BALL GAME.

Oklahoman Visits Here to See His Sick Sister.

Mrs. George Canada, of Vandalia, is at Minneola Springs for the benefit of her health.

Born, a few days ago, to Mr. and Mrs. George Lierheimer, northeast of Mexico, a fine daughter.

Josiah Martin, of Oklahoma, was here last week to see his sister, Mrs. Doyle, at Vandalia, who has been very ill.

Dr. C. M. Cowherd, the veterinarian of this city, modestly owns up that he is a cousin of W. S. Cowherd, the Kansas City Democratic candidate for Governor.

Russell Phillips, of this city, 12 years old, in exploding a blank cartridge in a pistol last Sunday received a serious wound in one of his hands.

J. R. Dorgan and "Brint" Erisman, down near Benton City, are doing some fine work on the roads in that locality by using a traction engine to pull the grader.

Dennie Kanoly, Jr., last Monday, working at the Brick Plant, lost a finger and part of another, on his right hand, his hand being caught between a mining car and a post.

Lewis Slavens, of Laddonia, is the new bookkeeper for the La-Crosse Lumber Co. in Mexico. Lewis is a brother of J. B. Slavens and Mrs. Bert Ingram of this city. He is a very worthy fellow.

C. E. Clark states that the new Co-Operative Live Stock Commission Co. will open for business at the National Stock Yards in East St. Louis in a few months. Mr. Clark has been very active in organizing the company.

The Farber Forum says that Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Tipton of that town came to Mexico to help E. R. Taft here celebrate his birthday. E. R. is said to be related to Billie Taft, who sits in the President's chair down at Washington.

T. J. Wilson, living in South Mexico, who a year or so ago moved here from Santa Fe, says they charge him with being a relative of Woodrow Wilson, the candidate for President. T. J. says the relation is very distant and the help to him, or assistance by it, is also distant and remote.

The Christian Sunday school base ball nine won from the Methodist nine in a hard fought game on the Military Academy grounds last Thursday. The score was close, 7 to 6. The Baptists and Presbyterians also had a contest, the Baptists winning by a score of 17 to 14. A large crowd witnessed the games and there was "seeds of fun."

C. W. and Austin Lewis, J. G. Ford, Wm. Creasey and W. E. Sims, northwest of Mexico, gave "a picnic in the woods" to a number of their friends on July 4th. Fried young squirrel and "Jim Ford Cornbread" and other eatables composed the luncheon. The following were among those present: J. B. Woolery, W. J. Botts, Judge J. A. Lewis, C. T. Powell, S. D. Byrns, Wm. Wright, C. C. Bledsoe, A. D. Jackson, W. W. Woodbridge, W. W. Johnson, D. F. Gillette, R. M. White, W. H. Coons, R. R. Buckner, J. W. Mason, George Robertson and Graham Robertson.

Tom Smith, of Santa Fe, visited Mexico relatives last week.

TOM NULL DEAD.

Funeral Held at Home Last Sunday.

Thomas Null, 36 years old, son of G. B. Null of this city, died at the home of his father at 11 o'clock last Saturday morning. He had been ill for about a year. The wife and a small son, Void, with the father, besides three sisters survive him. The sisters are: Mrs. Nettie Quisenberry, of St. Louis; Josie Quisenberry, of Mexico; and Mrs. Georgia Anderson, of Rockford, Ill. Deceased was engaged in the grocery business with his father at the time he took ill.

Rev. W. A. Shullenberger preached the funeral address at the home at 2:30 o'clock, Sunday afternoon. The pallbearers were Leo Hanley, C. R. Myers, Wm. H. Rixey, Herbert Westrope, Clark Garrett and C. H. Williams.

Postal Savings Business.

Mexico P. O. for the first year, ending June 30th, 1912.

Total number of accounts opened, 35; total number of deposits, 244; total amount deposited, \$2,486.00; total amount withdrawn, \$1,193.00; balance on deposit, \$1,293.00.

Of the 35 depositors, 23 are males, ages from 10 to 79. Twelve are females, age 12 to 60. There has also been postal savings stamps sold to the amount of \$22.20. These stamps have been redeemed with certificates of deposit. The depositors are all white and only two foreign. Very little of this money, if any at all, is taken from the banks. All of it is put in the foreign banks by the Government.

In the U. S. at the end of the first quarter of the year showed 7,163 offices in operation with deposits to the amount of \$16,200,000.00. Great Britain has \$821,000,000.00, an average of \$69.46; Italy, \$324,000,000.00, average \$62.00; France, \$316,000,000.00, average, \$57.09.

It can be seen that while the gain is slow that it is bound to become a popular saving system, as it's understood.

Geo. H. Kunkel, P. M., E. F. K. Clerk.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Williams, of Mt. Pleasant, Tenn., arrived here last week on a visit to relatives.

Dr. C. L. Blanks is in St. Louis on business.

Mrs. Carl Sims and children of Kingsville, Texas, are visiting relatives in this city.

Miss Pearl Morris, of Kirksville, is visiting her parents in this city.

Miss Zola Beal is visiting her aunt, Mrs. Wm. Fullen, at Vincennes, Ind.

Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Douglass, of St. Louis, have been visiting Dr. W. H. Douglass and wife at Benton City.

Mrs. Hugh Donnelly, Jr., of St. Louis, visited the family of Hugh Donnelly, Sr., of this city last week.

Our Martinsburg letter was belated last week. Did not arrive until after the paper had been printed.

Mr. John Gamble, of Kansas City, and Miss Nettie Lagenbach, of Mexico, were married Tuesday evening of this week.

Miss Christine Johnson, of Rocky Ford, Colo., is visiting her friend here, Miss Mary Lee Burks.

Would Tax Large Holdings.

I would like to answer a few of W. M. Black's questions as best I can. He asks, "Do we want to encourage the man who would like to take 20 or 40 acres, improve it well and gather about him plenty of personality—wealth?" Yes, but we should go at it in a different way from the Single Tax. Let the land and personality tax go as it is up to 160 acres for one man, then add a higher tax for each and every acre he wants to own above 160 acres. This will encourage the small man and he will have a chance to buy 20 or 40 acres and pay for it and you will not see so much waste land or places where the farm is too big for the man who has land not doing him nor anyone else any good. That will drive out the non-resident land owners who have hundreds of acres of land assessed as unimproved land. You can find it right here in this state. Just such land is leased to tenants and all the improvements that are on the land were put there by the man who has it leased. Put a tax on such land and they will be glad to sell. That is what has made land advance so in the last few years. We have here the worst trust we have on earth—a land trust. Land is no better now than years ago, some not so good. Of course some has been made better. The land trust has caused the rent to go up. This has driven many people from the farm to the cities and country towns. This talk all over the country of back to the farm will never come till something is done, so a man will have a chance when he does get back on a little farm. This is what is causing the high price of living. We have not enough producers.

Mr. Black asks, "Does not the borrower pay taxes on the increased interest?" Yes, and pays a tax on his land, too. But all mortgage holders do not pay taxes on all their holdings. He also asks, "Would not interest be lower if there was no tax on money?" No, for we have a money trust and lots of money is never found to put a tax on.

O. B. DINGLE.

Appleton City, Mo.

SANTA FE ITEMS.

Everybody busy. Several of our boys spent the 4th at Mexico, and of course most of Santa Fe will attend the Chautauqua at Mexico.

Died, last Monday, J. M. Sherman, Santa Fe's banker. All that medical skill and loving hands could do was done, but the summons came and he passed peacefully away. Mr. Sherman leaves a wife and two daughters and a host of friends to mourn his death. Funeral services by Rev. John Kerr of Perry, after which he was laid to rest in the Santa Fe cemetery by the Odd Fellows. Quite a crowd from here attended the dedication of the Victor new Christian church.

Irya and Noel Seebae spent the 4th with Cecil Bridgford.

Mrs. Harvey Moore spent Saturday with Chas. Lucas and wife and Uncle Jake Hanger.

A. C. Deaver of Paris attended the funeral of J. M. Sherman. Pearl Snell of St. Louis is visiting his grandmother here, Aunt Mary Ellen Crigler.

Mrs. Z. T. Shultz, of Mexico, and her mother, Mrs. Mary Cunningham, visited Mrs. G. P. McFarland in Frankford last week.

Mrs. Wm. Mears, of Martinsburg, has been quite sick. Her mother, Mrs. G. W. Sedwick, of Dallas, Ill., has been at her bedside.

THE "FOURTH" IN MEXICO.

WORKING MEN CELEBRATE THE DAY IN HARDIN PARK.

Large Crowd Present — Candidates Make Speeches.

"The band began to play"—McMillan Band—on the Public Square early last Thursday morning and at 10 o'clock a crowd began to gather in Hardin Park to hear a program to be presented by the Workingmen's Club. Rev. J. C. Ayscough opened the services at the speakers' stand with prayer and presided for the hour. Judge W. W. Botts read the Declaration of Independence. Houchin's Trio, accompanying the candidate for Governor, presented a fine number, after which, for the forenoon, short talks were made by the candidates for county offices. E. A. Shannon and Dr. J. B. Hawkins, candidates for Representative, presented their claims for election. Noble Barnes and Edgar Threlkeld, candidates for County Treasurer, also made short talks. Churchill Kennan, candidate for Constable, was also presented from the platform, making a pointed little talk.

In the afternoon Col. Green Clay presided. He introduced James A. Houchin, Democratic candidate for Governor, who made a speech, holding forth his claims for election to office. H. P. Warden, candidate for Representative, was also an afternoon speaker.

McMillan Band discoursed music throught the afternoon. At night there was a brilliant display of fireworks given on the south side of the Public Square.

There had been but little advertising of the day's program but there was a throng of people in town from early morning till late at night.

Mrs. Renfro Dead.

The Message last week mentioned the serious illness of Mrs. Ann Renfro at Laddonia. She died last Thursday night. She was a sister of Mrs. J. T. Williams of this city who was ill and not able to attend the funeral. Rev. J. D. Greer, of Mexico, preached the funeral address interment in Laddonia cemetery.

Mr. Albert Beahan, formerly of this city, and Miss Ethel Mosely, of Fulton, were united in marriage here last Sunday afternoon, Rev. J. E. Ayscough officiating.

Cleo, two year old, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Williams of this city, died last Monday from trouble of the stomach. Burial at Thompson Tuesday.

The small son of Mr. and Mrs. John T. Baker of this city underwent an operation a few days ago for the removal of tonsils and adenoids.

Miss Helen Oblham, of Kearney, Neb., is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Graham of this city.

Mrs. C. L. Blanks and daughter, Miss Dorothy, are the guests of relatives at Pilot Knob, Mo.

Mexico Savings Bank
Capital Stock, \$150,000.00
43rd Year in Business.
W. W. FRY, President.
SAM LOCKE, Cashier.